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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,873	02/13/2002	Reinhard Noack	ANI-100US	9425

7590

05/15/2003

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EXAMINER

LOCKER, HOWARD J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1661

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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EXAMINER

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3

DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on February 13, 2002 and April 11, 2002

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ ~~Claim(s)~~ The claim is ~~is~~ pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ ~~Claim(s)~~ The claim is ~~is~~ rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☒ The drawing(s) filed on February 13, 2002 is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

10/075873
PTOL-326 (Rev. 10/95)

- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES -

1. The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

"The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention."

In plant applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 are limited. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

"The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention."

As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

"The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted."

The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.163(a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear, and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same per se, and which distinguish same over related or similar known cultivars and antecedents.

More specifically:

A. At page 1 of the specification, the mode(s) of asexual reproduction which were successfully employed in Kent County, Maryland should be positively set forth in the specification.

B. The Genus/species designation of the plant should be set forth in the specification.

C. Peduncle coloration should be reviewed for accuracy, as such would appear to also be characteristically greenish in coloration, as per the submitted photographic illustration. It would appear that peduncle coloration should be more completely accounted for.

D. The specification should be amended to set forth a characteristic and expressed range of blooms borne in the clusters and "large sprays".

E. That the generic bloom coloration is properly characterized as "orange-pink" does not appear to reasonably correspond to the plant as illustrated or to the bloom/petal color designations set forth in the specification. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

F. It is not clear what is intended or encompassed by "Flower contains a continuous disc, Yellow Green Group 151C" as recited at page 4 of the specification. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

G. It is not clear what is intended or encompassed by "3 to 5 leaflets on single bloom" as recited at page 4 of the specification. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

H. Petiole coloration (upper side) as recited in the specification should be reviewed for accuracy and completeness.

I. That leaf venation is parallel does not appear accurate.

J. If additional information is now available relative to observed disease resistance (rust?), such should be imported into the specification in the interest of providing as complete a botanical description of the plant as is reasonably possible. Such is particularly sought given that one of the characteristic features of the plant is stated to be its outstanding disease resistance.

K. At page 5 of the specification, both thorns and prickles are set forth, but the distinction between same is not clear. Perhaps applicant intended to recite large prickles and small prickles. In any event, mature coloration thereof should be set forth in the specification with reference to the employed color chart, and coloration of the smaller prickles should likewise be positively accounted for.

L. It is not clear how the quantity of thorns can be recited to be per se "ordinary" and the number of same on the laterals be "few". Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

The above listing may not be comprehensive. Applicant should carefully review the disclosure and import into same any additional or corrected information which would aid in botanically identifying and/or distinguishing the cultivar for which United States Plant Patent protection is being sought.

2. The claim is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs as not being supported by a clear and complete botanical description of the plant, for the reasons set forth in paragraph 1 above.

3. Applicant is advised of the changes to 37 CFR 1.84 which took effect on October 01, 2001 and apply to any applications (and to new drawings filed in previously existing applications) filed thereafter. In particular, 37 CFR 1.84(e) now states, in part:

Photographs must be developed on paper meeting the sheet size requirements of paragraph (f) of this section and margin requirements of paragraph (g) of this section.

The USPTO no longer accepts photographs mounted on Bristol board, paper or other material. Further information on the new rules is available on the USPTO web site at www.uspto.gov.

The rules for submitting drawings, 37 CFR 1.85 and 37 CFR 1.165, were amended effective November 29, 2000. Complete details can be found in the May 22, 2001, Official Gazette (1246 OG 106-107) or on the internet at:
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/og/2001/week21/patwavr.htm>

The submitted photographic illustrations are objected to as the Office no longer accepts mounted photographs. Responsive to this Office action, applicant must substantively address this situation by filing acceptable photographic illustrations.

4. Applicant is advised of the new optional procedures for amending the specification and claim under 37 CFR 1.121. The new procedures are optional until July, 2003, and such may become mandatory at that time. Applicant may review same on the internet at the following site:
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/revamdtpra.c.htm>

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Howard J. Locker whose telephone number is 703-308-2924, and whose normal work hours are Monday through Thursday, from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Bruce Campell, can be reached at 703-308-4205.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

TELECOPY/FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to this Group via the PTO Fax Center in Crystal Mall 1 (CM 1). The faxing of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CM 1 Fax Center number is 703-308-4556 or 703-305-3592.

Howard J. Locker/hjl
May 09, 2003


HOWARD J. LOCKER
EXAMINER
GROUP ART UNIT 1661